

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. In early May 1953 the Chinese Communists had established a labor union (1562/2585) and a merchant union (0794/2585) in Wuch'ang, Hankow and Hanyang, and had ordered all laborers and merchants to join one of these organizations. Each member was required to attend meetings or be liable to criticism. In the smaller districts, a labor and merchant joint association (1562/0794/5114/0678/2585) had been set up and all laborers and merchants had to join this association. Chinese Communist cadres were the controlling power behind these organizations.
2. In addition to joining the labor and merchant joint association, laborers and merchants were also required to join the local resident unit (1446/3046/1420/4809) and to attend meetings for instruction. Permission for being absent had to be obtained from the unit chief. Absence without permission resulted in criticism by the sub-unit or in punishment.

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